LER2583 Ages 8+

Agar **Preparation & Use**

Agar is a gelatinous material extracted from certain marine algae. It is used for gelling foods and as a bacteria culture medium. Nutrient agar will resemble a solution something like Jell-O® with beef soup. It is not edible and should not be ingested.

Contents:

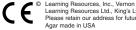
2 plastic petri dishes 2 packets of Nutrient Agar (Use one packet per petri dish)

Instructions:

- 1. Boil 2 tablespoons of distilled water.
- Add entire contents of one package of Nutrient Agar to the boiling water.
- 3. the solution until agar completely dissolved. The solution will start to resemble a jelly mixture.
- 4. Pour the agar solution into one petri dish.
- 5. Refrigerate to gel (about 30 minutes).
- After the solution turns into a waxy 6. gel, turn the dish over and draw pie-cut sections on the bottom and up the sides. Number each section.
- Re-draw the sections on paper to record which sample is in each section.
- Next, use a clean toothpick to collect 8. a sample of what you want to test by rubbing it on the sample's surface, then rub it on one section of the agar.
- Cover the dish and leave it in a warm. 9. draft-free area for 24 to 48 hours.
- 10. Leaving the dish open and exposed to the air is another way to collect samples floating around on breeze. You can even sneeze on gel and see what grows.
- 11. By turning the dish upside down it allows for less moisture to collect.
- 12. It's best to use a magnifier to see the results. See your dealer magnifiers available various from Learning Resources.



WARNING! NOT A FOOD PRODUCT. DO NOT INGEST.



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